ANACONDA Copper - Jmpany

New Mexico Operations P.O. Box 638 Grants, New Mexico 87020 505/876-2211



August 27, 1979

Mr. A. F. Czarnowsky
AR 60 Mining Supervisor
U. S. Department of the Interior
Geological Survey
P. O. Box 26124
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125

Dear Mr. Czarnowsky:

In response to your request of 7 August 1979 concerning Anaconda's proposed hydraulic mining tests at the Jackpile Lease, please find attached in triplicate:

- Letter from J. K. Grunig, Anaconda, to Meade Stirland, Anaconda, dated 24 August, 1979.
 This letter addresses those concerns you cited in your letter to me dated 7 August 1979.
- 2. A 1"=1000' topographic base map of the mine base showing locations of the two test holes (attached to letter).
- 3. A 1"=100' topographic map of each test location showing test bore hole, lined ponds, ore bodies of interest and the circle of significant surface disturbance for each site.
- 4. Drawing of the lined ponds.

With this submittal, we request your approval to proceed with these tests. As we have informed you in writing, the Laguna Council has already approved this operation.

If you have further questions, please contact me. Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely.

Meade A. Stirland

cc: (without enclosures)

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August 24, 1979

Mr. Meade Stirland Anaconda Copper Company P.O. Box 638 Grants, New Mexico 87020

Dear Meade:

Enclosed are the data requested by A. F. Czarnowsky of the U. S. Geological Survey in his August 7, 1979 letter to you.

Also enclosed is a part of the 1" = 1000' topographic base map of the mining lease showing both test locations. The large boreholes are at Anaconda coordinates 1009530N, 995170E and 1005415N, 998104E, respectively. The first test will be performed at test location No. 1, the first listed, which lies within the SW1/4 of the SE1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section 35, TllN, R5W. The second test area lies within the NEI/4 of the SEI/4 of the NWI/4 of Section 3, TION, R5W.

In addition, a 1" = 100' topographic map is enclosed for each test location. On each of them is shown the large borehole, the slurry collection pond, the drilling mud pit, the 0.6 percent ft grade contour for the known uranium occurrence(s) which will be involved, and the circle of significant surface disturbance for each site.

We will place about 110,000 gallons of potable water in the 100' x 100' PVC-lined pond at test location No. 1 before mining starts. During mining we should gain a small amount of water from the Jackpile formation which may produce as much as 4000 gallons per day by the end of mining.

The accumulated ore in the pond will raise the pond water level. The ponds are designed to allow for this increase with two feet of free board to spare. A construction diagram applying to both ponds is enclosed.

A small amount of topsoil will be scraped up and stored for redistribution at each site.

The large boreholes will be cased to the top of the excavated cavern. The casing will be set in concrete at the surface and covered with a locked steel cover. The cased boreholes will be left open for an

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indeterminate time for cavern observation. Before termination of mining activities on the lease the boreholes will be stemmed and plugged with concrete.

We anticipate the water in the holding ponds will be of such quality that down hill safeguards will not be required. The ore contained in the pond will be of such value that we plan to put in a catchment in case of catastrophic failure of the collection pond walls.

The area of disturbance is shown on the detailed maps for each test location.

Sincerely,

J. K. GRUNIG

Project Director

In Situ Metal Extraction

JKG/rr Encls.

pc: RDLynn

CCHoward

ELucero

EGreen

EWylie

DAMilligan

U.S.B.M.

File

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